

COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1960

JUNE 1961

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
COALVILLE.



COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L      R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the Report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1960.

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# HEALTH COMMITTEE

at 31st December, 1960

Chairman:

Councillor L.A.Robinson

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor A.H.Moore

Councillors: A.R.Griffin, H.W.Lindsey, G.A.Peacey, J.W.Pearson,  
J.R.Willn and G.N.Wood.

Ex-officio: Councillor J.F.Kemp, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)  
Councillor L. Lovett, (Vice-Chairman of the Council).

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## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical:

Andrew Hamilton, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health (part-time),  
Municipal Offices, Coalville. Telephone: Coalville 283  
Home: Coalville 597.

Public Health Inspectors:

H. Hunter, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector.  
D. Allen, C.R.S.I., M A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector.  
J. Forrest, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I. Additional Public Health Inspector.  
I.N.Reynard, Pupil Public Health Inspector, appointed 1.9.60.

Clerical Staff:

Mrs J. Richards.  
Mrs K.M. Isaac. (part-time)

Rodent Operator:

T. Grew.



Public Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
Coalville.

To: The Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the district for the year 1960.

The Report follows the general lines indicated in Circular 1/61, dated 31st January 1961 from the Ministry of Health.

I am indebted to your Surveyor and Water Engineer for information supplied respecting water supplies, sewerage and public cleansing, incorporated in this Report.

I would thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council, for your continued courtesy and consideration, and it gives me particular pleasure to express once more my thanks to all the members of the staff of my Department for their help throughout another year.

*Andrew Hamilton*

Medical Officer of Health.

June 1961.





STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	6,511
Population (1951 census)	25,739
Population (est. middle 1960)	26,830
Number of inhabited houses (end 1960)	8,286
Rateable value at 31/3/60	£286,963
Estimated product of ld rate at 31/3/60	£1,172

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths:

	M.	F.	Total
	131	128	259
Death Rate per 1,000 population			11.3
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			11.5

Live Births:

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	214	177	391
Illegitimate	4	7	11
	<hr/> 218	<hr/> 184	<hr/> 402
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			14.5
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			17.1
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births			2.7

Still Births:

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	3	7	10
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 10
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births			23.4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births (England and Wales)			19.7



Total Live and Still Births:

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	217	184	401
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>221</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>412</u>

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year):

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	6	5	11
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	31.9
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births (England & Wales)	21.7
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	32.7
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0

Neo-natal Deaths (first four weeks):

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births):	23.2
(England & Wales):	15.6

Early Neo-natal Deaths (under 1 week):

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births):	20.3
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<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (stillbirths & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & stillbirths)	50.2
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<u>Maternal Mortality</u> (including abortion):	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England & Wales)	0 .39



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

A review of the above was given in a previous Annual Report.

Laboratory facilities continue to be available at the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester. During 1960 the following examinations were carried out for your authority : -

Vaginal and Cervical Swabs	1
Throat and Nose swabs	7
Faeces and urine	55
Sputa	127
Milk	92
Ice Cream & Iced Lollies	63
Water	65
Miscellaneous	23
	<u>433</u>

### National Assistance Act, 1947.

It was not found necessary to take any formal action under Section 47 of this Act, although on more than one occasion such action was contemplated. A number of visits were made to the homes of aged persons who appeared to be in need of care and attention. We continue to be deeply concerned about the ever increasing problem. There appears to be a very great need for much more cooperation between all the voluntary and welfare services and some central record of persons of advancing years to ensure that they are visited at frequent intervals.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The public water supply for the area is obtained from the new red sandstone measures overlying the coal measures, water being pumped from boreholes and pit shafts sunk into and through these measures respectively. These public supplies are situated at Broom Leys Pumping Station, Holly Hayes Pumping Station, Whitwick Colliery and Ellistown Colliery, and all water from these sources is chlorinated, the Ellistown and Whitwick Colliery supplies also being filtered.

The average daily output from these sources during the year was : -

Broom Leys	. . . . .	165,088 gallons
Holly Hayes	. . . . .	257,667 gallons
Whitwick and Ellistown Collieries	. . . . .	472,656 gallons

The total quantity of water pumped from the various sources during the year was 327,720,426 gallons, an increase of 3,426 gallons compared with 1959.

44,110,000 gallons were supplied in bulk to Market Bosworth Rural District Council, a decrease of 599,000 gallons on the 1959 figure.

Daily consumption for the Urban area for all purposes averaged 33.8 gallons per head of the population.

The required standard of purity for a public water supply was maintained during 1960. 14 samples of raw (untreated) water and 16 of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, with the following results : -

Whitwick Colliery		Ellistown Colliery		Holly Hayes		Broom Leys Pumping Station	
Raw	Treated	Raw	Treated	Raw	Treated	Raw	Treated
-4	-5	-3	-5		-5	-5	
+1	+1	+ 1					





Analysis for fluoride content gave the following results : -

<u>Source</u>	<u>Fluoride Content</u>
Broom Leys Pumping Station	0.1 p.p.m.
Holly Hayes Pumping Station	0.1 p.p.m.
Whitwick Colliery	0.2 p.p.m.
Ellistown Colliery	0.15 p.p.m.

8,272 houses in the area have a water supply direct from the public mains, and 14 houses, including some outlying farms, still have to rely on wells and springs.

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

No major works were carried out during the year with the exception of extensions for housing purposes. A small extension to the sewer in the Ellistown area will in 1961 enable certain properties in Clay Lane to be connected and allow of the conversion of pail closets to water closets.

Certain areas over the coal measures continue to be affected by mining operations and temporary arrangements have to be made to enable sewage to reach its proper outfall. Several pumps are now installed for the purpose and although they require constant attention are the means of preventing serious nuisances at these points.

No progress was made in the attempt to provide a proper sewerage system in the Battleflat area. Whilst one appreciates the cost of such a project, having in mind the sparsely populated area there is no doubt that only by such a scheme can this ever present nuisance be abated. I am confident that if further development was allowed in the area no time would be lost in providing such a system.

#### Public Cleansing and Salvage

Public cleansing and scavenging are under the control of your Surveyor, to whom I am indebted for the information. These services are provided for the whole of the area. Five motor refuse collection vehicles are employed for this purpose.

During the year 38 collections of refuse were made from domestic properties, giving an average period between collections of nine days. This was four collections fewer than 1959, due mainly to the time lost owing to the exceptionally wet weather experienced during the year. Pail closets were emptied weekly.



The disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping at Silver Street, Whitwick,, Ashby Road, Coalville, and Standard Hill.

Wastepaper salvage is collected at the same time as refuse from domestic properties, and a seperate weekly collection is made from shops, factories and offices. 346 tons of wastepaper were sold to the Board Mills during 1960, this being the highest total recorded in any one year.

The collection and disposal of trade refuse is also undertaken by the Council. In the case of properties with a rateable value of £150 or under , 1 free bin is allowed per week, and for properties over £150 rateable value, 2 free bins per week. All additional bins are charged at 10d each, bulk refuse being removed on a rechargeable basis.

The estimated weights of refuse collected and disposed of during the year were as follows : -

Domestic Refuse	13,603 tons
Middens and pails	261 tons
Market Refuse	105 tons.



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following tables show the total notifications after correction under age groups.

## NOTIFICATIONS

Age	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Polio				Measles		Diphth- eria		Dysen- tery		Meningo- coccal Infection	
					Para- lytic		Non- para- lytic									
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under - 1 year																
1-2 yrs																
2-3 yrs		1							1	2						
3-4 yrs	2	1							1	3						
4-5 yrs	1	1														
5-9 yrs	8	13								1				1		
10-14 yrs	2	3														
15-24 yrs																
25 and over																
Total	13	19							2	6				1		
	32								8				1			





Age	Acute Pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute Encephalitis		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	
					Infective	Post Infectious												
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			M	F
Under 5 years	2	1					1											
5 - 14	5	2																
15 - 44	3	1									2	1			2			
45 - 64	4	3									1	3						
65 & over	4	4										1						
Total	18	11					1				3	5			2			
	29						1				8				2			

### DIPHTHERIA

According to the return sent annually by Dr. Gibson, County Medical Officer of Health, the number of children immunised during the year was as follows : - Under 5 years 355, 5 to 14 years 29, a total of 384, whilst boosting injections were given to 304 children.

The following table shows the numbers immunised during the past 7 years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Boosters</u>
1954	289	9	298	268
1955	290	12	302	240
1956	296	8	304	234
1957	324	15	339	254
1958	403	19	422	257
1959	327	22	349	197
1960	355	29	384	304





There has been a satisfactory increase in the numbers of children who have been immunised against diphtheria and also in the numbers receiving boosting injections. Both numbers are substantially in excess of the averages of the previous six years. This gratifying trend may be attributable to a number of causes but there still remains no room for complacency on the part of doctors or parents who are again urged to ensure that their children receive their protective inoculations at the appropriate times. The point is again made that, although not so spectacular in its effects as poliomyelitis, diphtheria merits as much dread and therefore as much attention.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis, and deaths from the disease during the year :

	New Cases						Deaths					
	Resp.		Meninges & C.N.S.		Other		Resp.		Meninges & C.N.S.		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years												
5 - 14												
15-24	1											
25-44	4	1				1	1					
45-64	3					1						
65&Over												
Total	8	1				2	1					
	9					2	1					

The death rate per million population from respiratory tuberculosis is 37.2 compared with that for England and Wales - 68 and from non-respiratory tuberculosis is Nil compared with 7 for England and Wales.



## INFANTILE MORTALITY

11 children died before reaching their first birthday, compared with eight last year, and this apparently small increase has resulted in a rise in the infantile mortality rate to 31.9, which compares unfavourably with the rate of 21.7 for England and Wales. Indeed, I would regard this as the most unsatisfactory and disturbing feature of this report.

In 6 of the cases, prematurity is given as the main or as a contributory cause and all these cases occurred in hospital. In 2 cases death was attributed to congenital abnormalities, and in 2 others to pneumonia. 7 of the 11 deaths occurred before the baby was 2 days old. Fortunately there was a decrease from 12 to 10 in the number of still-births.

The prevention of premature labour and prematurity, and the care of the premature infant are subjects which are receiving considerable attention at the moment and will continue to do so while the incidence of death from prematurity remains high. Although the causes of stillbirth and premature birth are becoming more fully understood, knowledge about them is still far from complete. The short answer seems to be better and still better ante-natal care, such supervision of the expectant mother that not only does she receive advice; but that she understands it, and equally important that she carries it out, careful selection of cases for hospital confinement, the provision of sufficient ante-natal beds and adequate premature baby units.

Recently the fees payable to general practitioners for maternity medical services have been increased, and particularly those relating to ante-natal care. The fundamental "content" of ante-natal care has received attention and the suggestions as to what is or should be expected in this way have been made by a Standing Maternity and Midwifery Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health. The responsibility for ensuring that the suggested standard is provided rests squarely on the general practitioner who undertakes to provide maternity medical services but at the same time the expectant mother must see to it that she follows the advice given. Services provided by the Local Authority in the way of ante-natal clinics, relaxation classes, mothercraft (and fathercraft) courses, well-trained and understanding midwives all play an important part, but the general practitioner has the ultimate responsibility. He must not fail.

## MATERNITY UNIT ACCOMODATION.

In recent reports I have drawn attention to the number of Coalville babies born outside Coalville owing to the lack of maternity accomodation locally.





The figures for the last five years are : -

	Live births.	Still-births.	Born in U.D.	Born outside U.D.
1956	396	9	301	95
	Local Nursing Home closed down at end of 1956			
1957	389	6	205	190
1958	384	11	188	207
1959	386	12	184	214
1960	402	10	161	251

It will be seen therefore that fewer and fewer confinements are taking place in the patient's homes within the Urban District. Most of the births taking place outside the district take place in Ashby Cottage Hospital or at Roundhill Maternity Home, Kirby Muxloe, the latter being outside the area of practice of local doctors.

I indicated in my last report that Dr. Ramsay, the Senior Administrative Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board, had written to me enquiring about the possibility of staffing a maternity unit in Coalville. I was able to reply, after consulting my local professional colleagues, that all were convinced of the necessity for the provision of a maternity unit and that we felt that the necessary staff could very probably be obtained. Dr. Ramsay replied to the effect that the appropriate Committees of the Board had reaffirmed their earlier decision that a maternity unit be provided for Coalville and that the scheme should remain in the capital works programme for the period 1962/67.

I understand that correspondence then took place between the Board and the Clerk of the Council concerning the site for the proposed unit, and that the Board were to communicate with the District Valuer asking him to negotiate with the Council on behalf of the Board. In December 1960, at the request of the Council, Mr. Woodrow Wyatt, M.P. was asked if he could do anything to expedite the preliminaries of purchase of the agreed site. The result was that Mr. Wyatt early in 1961 informed the Council that the Minister of Health had asked the Regional Hospital Board to look at the scheme again and to consider whether maternity beds should be in larger units attached to large hospitals than in small units like the one proposed in Coalville. This change in policy was probably the result of what is now known as the Cranbrook Report, the report of a committee whose terms of reference were : - "To review the present organisation of the maternity services in England and Wales, to consider what should be their content and to make representations".



Mr. Woodrow Wyatt was able to arrange for a deputation from your Council to meet the Minister of Health on 1st March 1961. The deputation was cordially received and courteously and patiently heard but the Minister left it in no doubt that no Maternity unit would be provided in Coalville. This decision has meant considerable disappointment to all concerned locally, but the disappointment is tempered by the fact that the policy which brought it about is a national one. It is quite obvious that the day of the new small unit is gone and indeed one feels that the fate of the established small unit may eventually be its abolition.

Although some of the events related above do not refer to the year of the present report the opportunity is taken to bring the information available up to date.

### Casualty and Accident Services.

As Coalville has no local hospital, difficulties and misunderstandings sometimes arise as to the disposal of accident cases. The Leicestershire and Rutland Local Medical Committee considered the question of those services as applied to Leicestershire and Rutland and I append their conclusions as they would apply to Coalville. They conclude that the long term policy should be : -

1. To provide a 24 hour service to care for serious accidents or emergencies. This could best be achieved by setting up an Accident Unit (? in Leicester) to which all cases should be taken without the least possible delay i.e. without trying to contact a doctor. This unit should be fully staffed and equipped to deal with any type of accident and have full diagnostic facilities.

2. No case of serious accident should be taken to a hospital without resident surgical staff.

3. There should be clear understanding on the part of everyone that all cases of serious injury are automatically taken to the accident unit. Even a journey of, say 20 miles, can often be justified.

4. The ambulance personnel should be fully versed in First Aid.

5. The onus of responsibility as to which hospital the patient should be taken to should not rest with the ambulance driver. Valuable time is often lost in subsequently having to transfer the patient to a more fully equipped hospital.





TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATHS AND  
SEX DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS IN 1960

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	
Tuberculosis, other			
Syphilitic disease			
Diphtheria			
Whooping Cough			
Meningococcal infections			
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Measles			
Other infective and parasitic diseases			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	11	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	6		6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	6		6
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	8	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2		2
Diabetes	2		2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	33	20	13
Coronary disease, angina	33	22	11
Hypertension with heart disease	11	3	8
Other heart disease	33	17	16
Other circulatory disease	16	6	10
Influenza	1		1
Pneumonia	7	1	6
Bronchitis	17	12	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	2	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea			
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	2	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion			
Congenital malformations	7	2	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	34	12	22
Motor vehicle accidents			
All other accidents	6	5	1
Suicide	3	2	1
Homicide and operations of war			
ALL CAUSES	259	131	128



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Coalville Urban District Council.

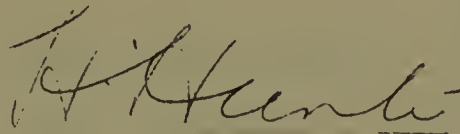
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the work of your Public Health Inspectors during 1960.

Whilst our efforts have not always been welcomed nor indeed have they always achieved the desired results, they have been none the less a sincere attempt to improve the environmental health of the town. Much of our work is of a routine character with no spectacular results. Details of the more important sections are contained in the pages which follow.

I would particularly draw the attention of the Council to the question of housing standards and to the comments made in that section of the report.

Once more I take this annual opportunity of putting on record my thanks to Dr. Hamilton for his encouragement, to the staff of the department for their cooperation and to the members and officers of the Council for their interest and support.



Chief Public Health Inspector.



## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation in the Urban area at the end of 1960 was made up as follows :

9368	-	water closets
97	-	pails including chemical closets
15	-	privies
11	-	middens
6	-	dry ashpits.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given below are for all purposes, including those given elsewhere in this Report with the exception of rodent extermination.

Total number of complaints received - 193

Total number of notices served :

(a)	formal	-	117
(b)	informal	-	254

Inspections in connection with :

Dwellinghouses	1823
Infectious disease enquiries	65
Food poisoning	-
Verminous and dirty premises	51
Drainage works	371
Tents, vans and sheds	182
Water supplies	23
Atmospheric Pollution	189
Factories, workshops, etc	80
Shops	110
Keeping of Animals	41
x Rodent control	131
Refuse storage, collection & disposal	21
Schools	23
Slaughterhouse and meat inspection	1218
Other food premises	1147
Bakehouses	44
Dairies	38
Miscellaneous Inspections	<u>437</u>
	<u>5994</u>

x Not including visits by Rodent Operator.



Additional work was carried out as under :

Milk samples for biological examination	24
" " " bacteriological "	91
Ice Cream samples	63
Water samples	11
Specimens collected (food poisoning, research etc)	32
Bath Water Samples	21

The number of notices served during the year, together with figures showing the number complied with, are given in the following tables :

<u>PRELIMINARY</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	288	78
Issued during year	148	71
Complied with during year	137	64
Statutory action necessary	99	18
Outstanding on 31st December	299	85
 <u>STATUTORY</u>		
Outstanding on 1st January	-	46
Issued during year	-	117
Complied with during year	-	34
Outstanding on 31st December	-	129

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are now no common lodging houses in your area.

#### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

One house has been let in lodgings during the year and has been inspected on frequent occasions. No case of overcrowding was found at these premises.





## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Towards the end of the year the Health Committee adopted a set of standard conditions for sites accomodating not more than two caravans. Three sites of this type were licenced under the new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 and one site for the accomodation of 40 vans. They were all "existing sites" with operative planning permissions. At the same time a further 13 applications for "existing sites" without operative planning permission were submitted to the planning authority with our observations.

Thus at the end of the year the position was as follows : -

Site licences issued .....	4
Applications referred to planning authority .....	13
Total sites in use .....	17
Number of Caravans on these sites .....	33

A problem will no doubt arise in the not too distant future in connection with the caravans on Central Field. These sites are contained in the area to be re-developed for shopping and business use and it would appear that at the end of the year nothing had been done to ensure that sites would be available for the Caravans to be displaced. It ought to be pointed out that it is an offence to use a site without first obtaining a site licence and one can only hope that the persons concerned are aware of this and will sometime before they are required to move take appropriate steps to obtain the necessary permissions.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades in the area.



## PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The only Public Swimming Bath in your area is the one owned by the Council and situated in Avenue Road.

The Bath has a capacity of 80,000 gallons, water for filling being obtained from the public supply.

Treatment is by filtration and chlorination and the pumps are designed to change the bath water every 4 hours.

Daily tests of the water were made for Chlorine residual and alkalinity.

21 samples of bath water were obtained by this department and examined at the Public Health Laboratory. 19 of these were found to be satisfactory but 2 taken during December were found to contain bacillus coli. This condition was remedied by increasing the chlorine content of the water.

## SCHOOLS

The conditions in some of the schools still leave much to be desired but we continue to hope for the elimination of many of the black spots. Surely it is not too much to expect that all children should be able to wash in hot water and be provided with something better than a communal towel.

It was not found necessary to close or disinfect any schools on account of infectious disease.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Routine control of emissions from industrial chimneys continued to be exercised during the year. With one or two exceptions no great problem arose. Negotiations were still continuing at the end of the year regarding the proposal to convert one hand fired plant to mechanical stoking. This plant has for many years caused a nuisance in the neighbourhood by the emission of smoke & sooty particles. The smoke nuisance has been gradually minimised but the soot problem remains. It is hoped that in 1961 some form of mechanised firing will be installed. Intermittent brick kilns in your area are still the 'black spot' so far as industrial smoke emissions are concerned. It will be recalled that their control passed to the Alkali Works Inspector under the Clean Air Act. The year did not in my opinion produce any marked improvement in this field.



Daily measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution are carried out in the department by means of the volumetric pollution meter. The results confirm what I have said in previous years regarding the cause of atmospheric pollution in the town.

During warmer weather when most people do not light a fire the smoke pollution remains at a very low figure. One has only to have a sudden fall in temperature however, for more domestic fires to be lighted with a rapid rise in the level of pollution as shown by our instrument.

A careful watch is kept on the level of sulphur pollution. This might well be of immense value as time goes on and more and more people change from solid fuel to oil burning.

Two applications for "prior approval" were considered during the year. Approval was given in one case and in the other was still being considered at the end of the year. In this connection it is important to remind all concerned of the necessity of notifying to the department all proposals to install furnaces in industrial buildings. This we find is not being done. Quite a number of smaller installations in non-domestic buildings have been converted to oil firing without notice to the Council as required by the Clean Air Act.

No real progress was made with regard to smoke control areas. The Committee discussed the question on more than one occasion but without resolving to take any action. There was some hope at the end of the year that the concessionary coal problem might be overcome. Negotiations were taking place between the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Coal Board with a view to a fixed sum of money being given to miners who are not allowed to burn raw coal by reason of the inclusion of their homes in smoke control areas or by virtue of some tenancy agreement.

It seems a great pity that at least all new development in the area should not have immediately become Smoke controlled. Because of the building byelaws all the houses in these areas are provided with fireplaces capable of burning smokeless fuels and it would have been simple to have made smoke control areas before they were occupied. From comments I have heard I am optimistic enough to believe that many householders are only awaiting smoke control orders before changing over to the burning of solid smokeless fuel. Habit dies hard and many people do not of their own free will change their habits. I am sure that if they tried burning smokeless fuel for a month they would never revert to the habit of burning raw coal.





## KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Inspections of piggeries, stable premises and places where animals are kept, were made during the year. No serious nuisances arose from the keeping of these animals.

## RODENT CONTROL

A full time rodent operator is employed by your Authority and the district is systematically inspected for infestations. A charge of 5/9d per hour, plus the cost of materials, is made for the treatment of business premises.

Your authority's sewage farms, refuse tips and other properties and the banks of streams and brook courses in the area receive regular attention. Sewer treatments were carried out in March and September.

The following is a summary of the work done :

No. of premises treated for rats	...	...	551
No. of premises treated for mice	...	...	40
Total number of inspections (including survey)			6351

There were no major rat infestations during the year.

## HOUSING

As will be seen from the tables which follow progress was accelerated during the year in an attempt to complete our 5 years unfit house programme.

18 houses were the subject of a public enquiry, confirmation being obtained for only 7. In addition 47 houses were dealt with under Part 11 of the Act.

The repair of houses continues to be one of our major problems and this is due in the main, to the high cost compared with the moderate return from rents. I would say that the majority of our cottage houses were not particularly well built and in many cases the materials used were not of first rate quality. Many have now arrived at the point when these materials are suffering from the ravages of time. Rising and penetrating dampness is increasing, plaster work is perishing, floors are becoming worn and uneven, woodwork requires renewal.





Brickwork is weathering, yard paving is becoming more uneven and out-buildings are getting more dilapidated. An owner can very easily be called upon to meet an account for £250 in making good these dilapidations. Assuming of course that he has £250 to spend on each house he owns. Having spent the money one wonders what he has achieved. He has in fact put back the clock to the day the house was built. It is in approximately the same condition as it was then but he has not by any means overcome or improved the fundamental weaknesses in the structure. The external brickwork is in the main just as porous as it was when he started. The £250 he has spent has not provided one amenity which was not present some 80 years ago. If he is lucky he will get for his efforts a nett rent of about £25 per annum. In other words it will take him 10 years to get back what he has currently spent. Who will guarantee that during the period of recoupment he will be free of repair bills?

We have had many disturbing examples of this kind of thing. In one case over £1,000 was spent on the repair and modernisation of two condemned houses in order to provide one unit of accommodation. This was less than 5 years ago. Now the owners are faced with further repairs which may indeed cost between £80 and £90 in an attempt to make good defects which have arisen because of the fundamental weaknesses referred to above. Less than eight years ago the Council carried out works at two cottages in default of the owner under the Housing Act 1936 and Public Health Act 1936. The cost recovered from him, was £203/16/0. Now we find that many of the defects which were remedied have recurred and to make them good will cost at least another £100. And the rent? - 15/3d per week inclusive of rates or 10/- nett for each house.

Set out it looks too silly for words :

Expenditure actual and  
estimated, say  
£300

Income from rent in  
8 years  
£400

Profit !!! - £100 - about £6 per annum or 2/6d per week, per house, less tax etc. and less any small items of repair such as burst pipes which he may have had to undertake in the period.

What has been achieved? A roof has been provided over the heads of the tenants (not a particularly good roof either) for which they have paid the landlord 10/- per week. From their point of view, the houses are almost exactly what they were when their grandfathers lived there. They still have to heat all water in kettles or pans, they still have to go across the yard to the water closet. If they want a bath they boil the kettle or put the copper on and have it in front of the fire. Well, their grandparents did it - why should'nt they? In any case what can one get for 10/- a week? A garage for a Car (four walls and a roof); or 2 gallons of petrol, or 2ozs. of tobacco; or 4 single whiskeys; or a gallon of beer.



Someone once said there was an answer to every question and a solution to every problem. There are two solutions to this problem and neither is very popular. To have demolished the houses 8 years ago would have denied the landlord of his 5/- per week profit and caused the tenants to each pay 20/- per week more rent. On their side they would have had all the modern conveniences for that 20/-.

An even more unpopular solution would be the fixing of a rent somewhat higher than the rent of a garage to enable the owner to carry out all repairs and encourage him to give some thought to modernising his property.

How many owners of house property really find it an economical proposition to give modern amenities to their tenants? How therefore can cottage property ever be modernised? It would appear at this time that only where the tenant becomes an owner/occupier do we find improvements being carried out, often of course with the aid of a grant under the Housing Act.

During 1960 applications for standard grants were received from 7 owners of rented property and 110 from owner/occupiers. 11 applications were received from owner/occupiers for improvement grants and none from owners of rented property.

I have always believed that every house should have Hot & Cold running water, an inside water closet and a fixed bath with Hot & Cold water taps over it. I am also optimistic enough to believe that in the not too distant future the Housing Act standard will be amended to include that every house shall be provided with these conveniences. Many houses in your area are so designed as not to allow of such amenities being provided. I say therefore that only houses capable of being improved should be retained. It seems pointless to repair at great expense houses which at some stage are going to fall by the wayside because of their inherent unsatisfactory design.

Since the coming into operation of the Rent Act 96 applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received. These have been dealt with as follows : -

Number of applications received	99
Number of applications refused	2
Number of undertakings by owners to carry out work	58
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	36
Number of Certificates revoked	6





## INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	398
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1606
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	58
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	210
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	58

### REPAIRS - Informal Action.

	Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	127
--	--	-----

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

#### (1) Public Health Acts.

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a)	by owners	23
(b)	by local authority in default of owners	Nil





## UNFIT HOUSE PROGRAMME

### Housing Act 1957.

- (1) The following were represented and dealt with under Part 111 of the Act.

	No. of houses.	No. of Persons.
Ashby Road (No.1.) Clearance Order	6	13
Ashby Road (No.2.) Clearance Order	12	25

These areas were made up as follows :

#### No.1 area.

No. 1 Ashby Road	A house, the front room being used as a lock-up shop.
No. 3 Ashby Road	A house, the front room being used as a lock-up shop.
No. 5 Ashby Road	A lock-up fried fish & chip shop.
No. 7 Ashby Road	A house and shop.
No. 9 Ashby Road	A house, the front room being used as a lock-up shop.
No. 11 Ashby Road	A house.

In the opinion of the Council all these were "houses" within the meaning of the Act being originally constructed as such. No structural alteration had been carried out to change position although in certain cases large windows had been fitted in front rooms where these rooms were used as shops. The Minister as a result of a public enquiry refused to confirm the Order but held that No's. 3 & 9 were unfit and ought to be dealt with under Part 11 of the Act.



No. 2 area.

13, Ashby Road	A lock-up shop.
15, Ashby Road	A lock-up shop.
17, Ashby Road	A house
19, Ashby Road	A lock-up shop.
21, Ashby Road	A house, the front room being used as a lock-up shop.
23, Ashby Road	A house
25, Ashby Road	A house
27, Ashby Road	A house and shop.
29, Ashby Road	A house
31, Ashby Road	A house
33, Ashby Road	A house
35, Ashby Road	A house

Here again the Council held the same opinion as they did in No. 1 area. In this case the Minister confirmed the Order as respects No's. 23 to 35 (inclusive). He excluded No's. 13, 19 & 21 on the grounds that they were not houses, No. 15 on the grounds that it was not unfit and No. 17 with a proviso that it was unfit and ought to be dealt with under Part 11 of the Act.

(2)

(a)	Demolition Orders made under Section 17	40
(b)	Closing Orders made under Section 17 (in lieu of Demolition Orders)	6
(c)	Closing Orders made under Section 18 (Parts of Buildings)	1
(d)	Undertaking accepted under Section 16 (4)	-



(3) Re-housing

		<u>Houses</u> <u>Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced</u> <u>Persons Families</u>	
(a)	Demolition Orders	36	24	10

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		<u>Number</u>		
(b)	Unfit houses closed	1	4	1

At the close of the year 1,004 post war houses had been completed by your Authority (including 50 prefabricated houses), 48 by the East Midlands Housing Association and 970 by private enterprise.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The following table shows the number of dairies and distributors registered on 31st December, 1960, and the number of inspections made :-

	DAIRIES (other than dairy farms) and DISTRIBUTORS (Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959).				
	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Found	Remedied	Outstanding on 31st Dec.
Dairies	12	23	-	-	-
Distributors	43	48	-	-	-

The district was included in a Specified Area from the 1st December, 1954 and all milk sold must be heat treated or bear the designation Tuberculin Tested.



The table below gives details of bacteriological sampling of milk during the year.

Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	38	32	6
Pasteurised	46	46	-
Sterilised	7	7	-
Total	91	85	6

The reduction in the number of samples taken was brought about by the transference of the functions of the Council to the County Council under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960. The Regulations came into operation on the 1st October 1960.

18 bulk and individual samples of milk were collected for biological examination. 1 of the bulk samples showed evidence of brucella abortus. As the milk from the affected herd was already being heat treated before sale no stoppage notices were served.

#### Dealers Licences

Pasteurised	17
Sterilised	15
Tuberculin Tested	18

#### Supplementary Licences

Pasteurised	7
Sterilised	-
Tuberculin Tested	5





(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in your area, including one bacon factory.

The following table gives details of the animals inspected etc. during 1960:

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	.....	6
Animals slaughtered therein	.....	13,626
Animals examined therein	.....	13,626
Inspections of meat at time of slaughter	... ..	1,168



DETAILS OF CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNATIONS

TABLE A

	Cattle excl Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs and Sheep	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1370	29	Nil	3566	8661	Nil
Number inspected	1370	29	Nil	3566	8661	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	-	-	1	5	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	307	6	-	46	1257	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	22.7	20.6	-	1.3	14.3	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	4	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	24	1	-	-	395	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.7	3.4	-	-	3.4	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	14	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-



TABLE B

Details of organs condemned and reason for condemnation.

Tubercular Offal etc :-

	Cows	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Pigs
Heads and Tongues	-	9	348
Pairs of Lungs	1	16	3
Mesenteries & Intestines	-	-	1
Livers	-	5	1
Plucks	-	-	3

Non-Tubercular Offal etc :-

	Cows	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Pigs	Sheep Lambs
Heads and Tongues:-				
Abscesses	-	6	13	-
Actinomycosis	1	11	-	-
Cysticercus Bovis	-	9	-	-
Pairs of Lungs:-				
Abscesses	-	12	1	-
Cysts	-	1	-	-
Congestion	-	3	-	-
Contamination	1	8	-	-
Echinococcus	-	1	-	-
Emphysema	-	1	-	-
Fluke	-	11	-	-
Haemorrhage	-	2	-	-
Melanosis	-	1	-	-
Necrosis	-	2	-	-
Parasites	1	4	15	9
Pleurisy	-	50	116	2
Pneumonia	-	-	939	12
Livers:-				
Abscesses	-	36	3	5
Carcinoma	-	2	-	-
Cavernous Angioma	-	4	-	-
Cirrhosis	1	30	8	-
Cloudy Swelling	-	-	3	-
Cysts	-	2	-	2
Echinococcus	-	1	-	-





Non-Tubercular Offal etc :- (Cont'd)

	Cows	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Pigs	Sheep Lambs
Livers (cont'd):-				
Fatty Degeneration	-	-	3	-
Fluke	2	30	1	3
Parasitic	-	-	65	11
Peritonitis	-	2	8	-
Part Livers:-				
Abscesses	-	1	-	-
Cirrhosis	-	21	-	-
Cysts	-	3	-	-
Fluke	1	119	-	-
Necrosis	-	1	-	1
Skirts:-				
Abscesses	-	1	-	-
Cysticercus Bovis	-	1	-	-
Peritonitis	-	1	-	-
Spleens:-				
Congestion	-	2	-	-
Inflammation	-	3	-	-
Peritonitis	-	16	-	-
Hearts:-				
Cysticercus Bovis	-	5	-	-
Pericarditis	-	2	174	-
Kidneys:-				
Abscesses	-	-	1	-
Cystic	-	-	259	-
Haemorrhagic	-	-	1	-
Nephritis	-	-	9	-
Plucks:-				
Abscesses	-	-	3	-
Bacterial Necrosis	-	-	1	-
Pleurisy etc	-	-	46	-



The following table shows the number of animals inspected in the town each year since 1947:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Animals examined</u>	
1947	10,335)	
1948	11,475)	
1949	15,135)	
1950	17,006)	Meat rationing and
1951	15,013)	Ministry of Food
1952	18,644)	control of slaughtering
1953	17,818)	to 30th June, 1954
1954	17,721)	
1955	12,445	
1956	17,393	
1957	18,076	
1958	19,698	
1959	17,900	
1960	13,626	

As will be seen from this table there was a reduction of over 4,000 in the number of animals slaughtered in the town. This in the main was due to the fewer number of pigs being killed.

During the year our Report on Slaughterhouses was approved by the Council and submitted to the Ministry. The appointed day suggested is to be 31st December 1961. Details of the works required at each of the slaughterhouses were supplied to the respective occupiers with a request that they would state whether or not they were prepared to make their premises comply with the Regulations by the appointed day.

Of the six slaughterhouses concerned the occupiers of three said they were prepared to comply, two said they were not prepared to carry out all the improvements and one stated that he was not willing to do any work. Since the report was published the two who were prepared to do all the work have had their objections considered by the Ministry. Their main objection was to our requirement that a separate space should be provided for the hanging of meat. This objection was rejected and the occupiers were at the end of the year considering whether it was economically possible to carry on.



As will be seen from the following table the incidence of tuberculosis remains at a very low level

TABLE showing the percentage of Animals found to be affected with Tuberculosis.

Year	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Pigs
1950	19.8	49.2	6.6
1951	17.4	35.2	4.4
1952	21.0	42.1	5.2
1953	18.5	35.8	4.9
1954	13.1	25.8	3.7
1955	10.8	19.5	4.0
1956	9.6	24.2	5.0
1957	9.6	18.7	3.7
1958	8.9	15.8	4.1
1959	9.5	2.5	2.9
1960	1.7	3.4	3.4

DISPOSAL OF UNSOUND FOOD.

The weight of meat and offal condemned during the year amounted to 7-tons 8-cwts 3-qrs 18-lbs.

In addition the following foods were surrendered and destroyed : -

153 tins Tomatoes	14-lbs 11-ozs Meat
56 tins Vegetables	52-lbs 12-ozs Beef
168 tins Fruit	87-lbs 6-ozs Ham
27 tins Fish	6-lbs 0-ozs Tongue
1 tin Soup	11-lbs 0-ozs Bacon
3 tins Milk Puddings	3-lbs 0-ozs Jam
1 tin Cream	31 Packets Cereals
6 tins Animal Food	4 Jars Pickles



All meat and offal after condemnation is stained with a green dye to prevent its disposal for human consumption. It is collected by two firms specialising in the recovery of industrial waste and by a local dog breeder who, after sterilisation of the meat, feeds it to his dogs. There is no sale of pet food from these premises nor does this person carry on any food business. A similar system is operated in the case of other unsound food where their nature allows them to be used for such purposes. When the food is contained in tins the cans are punctured and then conveyed to one of the Council's refuse tips where they are buried under supervision.

### FOOD PREMISES.

The following table shows the number and types of food premises in your area : -

Bakehouses	5	
Butchers shops	30	
Canteens (works, schools, sports clubs etc.)	50	
Cooked Meats	15-	Registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
Dairies	12-	Registered under Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.
Fish Shops, including fried fish shops	17	
General food shops	139	
Ice cream premises	87-	Registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
Licenced premises and clubs	57	
Restaurants, cafes and snack bars	6	

Under various legislation affecting food shops, stores, food preparation etc. premises, the undermentioned inspections were carried out : -





Butchers Shops	143
Fishmongers and Poulterers	23
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	12
Grocers	173
Fried Fish Shops	29
Ice Cream premises	71
Manufacture & preparation of preserved food	63
Restaurants and Dining Rooms	91
Food vans and vehicles	44
Public markets and Food stalls	345
Licensed premises	65
Bakehouses	44

The following table sets out the visits etc. made in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Number of Premises inspected	152
Number of Inspections made	521
Number of Informal Notices served	19
Number of Informal Notices complied with	30
Number of Informal Notices outstanding at 31st December	44
Number of prosecutions	-

#### ICE CREAM.

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, there were registered at the close of the year 87 premises for the sale of ice cream and 1 for its manufacture and retailing.

58 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination during the year. 55 of these were placed in provisional Grade 1 (Methylene Blue Test), 2 in Grade 11 and 1 in Grade 1V.

#### ADULTERATION ETC.

Your authority is not responsible for this work, the food adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, being administered by the County Council.



# APPENDIX

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1937.

### PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

TABLE 1

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	16	8	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	62	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	7	2	-	-
Total	87	80	8	-



# CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

TABLE 2

	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	-	1	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
(a) insufficient	2	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	24	-	1
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	3	2	-	-
Total	15	27	-	1

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

		Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of Outworkers in August list. (Sec. 110(1)(c))	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel	Making etc.	76	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas		1	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Toys		32	-	-	-	-	-
Total		109	-	-	-	-	-







